

PRESIDENT WILSON IN DEFENSE OF SEC'Y BAKER

**Characterizes Senator Chamberlain's Criticism as an
"Astounding and Unjustifiable Distortion of the Truth"**

REGARDS BAKER ONE OF ABLEST OF OFFICIALS

Declares That Nothing Helpful Has Come Out of Such Statements—Deprecates Delays That Congressional Committees Have Caused by Calling Cabinet Officers From Their Duties—In Reply Senator Chamberlain Asserts That His Remarks Were Directed Against the Military Establishment and Not Against Other Departments of the Government. Asserts the Principal Weakness

Washington, Jan. 21. — President Wilson issued a statement tonight characterizing as an "astounding and unjustifiable distortion of the truth" assertions made by Senator Chamberlain in a speech at New York Saturday concerning inaction, and inefficiency on the part of the government in its war preparations.

Investigations conducted at the

been the result of experience, there are much more likely than any other to be effective, if the congress will remove the few statutory obstacles which rigid departmental organizations which stands in their way.

The legislative proposals I have heard of would involve long additional delays and turn our experience into mere lost motion. My associates

"Nothing helpful or likely to speed or improve the tasks of the government has come out of legislation and investigation," he added.

Legislation proposed by the senate in 1942 to create a new department of a war council and a minister of munitions, the president declared, had been "a waste of time" because the organization already had been mature-

retary of war have meant me to regard him as one of the ablest public men in the country. The secretary will soon learn whether he or I can understand the business better."

"To add, as Senator Chamberlain said, that there is inefficiency in every department and bureau of government is not to moralize about actual conditions as to make it impossible to attach any importance to the fact that the government is that that statement sprang out

The president did he regarded Secretary Baker as one of the ablest men in the country, and he was sure that the country would soon learn whether he or his critics understood the business at hand. The statement was followed by a short recess.

President Wilson's Statement.

"When the president's statement attention was called to the speech made by Senator Chamberlain at St. Nicholas in London, I was immediately inquired of Senator Chamberlain whether he had been correct in his statement or not. I learned from the senator that he had been, the president felt it his duty to make the following statement:

Distortion of Truth.

"Senator Chamberlain's statement as to the present inaction and inefficiency of the government is an entirely untrue statement, and a gross distortion of the truth. As a matter of fact, the war department has taken the most prompt and effective measures of unparalleled magnitude and dispatch to meet the emergency."

whole, policy rather than out of a serious intention to reform its practice."

Senator Chamberlain's Explanation.

Senator Chamberlain said:

In my New York speech I had intended to say that the war department in minutes extemporaneously, without notes. I pointed out that from Bunker Hill to the present time we have had no consistent military policy. The press report of my address was correct. But my address was not intended to attack the military establishment and not to other departments of the government, although it was enough to be misunderstood that interpretation. But somehow they knew I referred merely to the military establishment and that some military men were to be taken through the bills for a new cabinet and a director of munitions to work out changes in the establishment."

"I explained that these bills were administration measures. I did not

Secy. Baker's Efforts Approved
"Secretary Baker's efforts to

into the foreground and exaggerated by the investigations which have been in progress since the congress assembled—investigations which drew indispensable officials of the department constantly away from their work as officers from their commands and contributions to the war.

lay and confusion as had inevitably arisen. But by comparison with what has been accomplished, these things

"Nothing helpful or likely to speed or facilitate the war tasks of the government has come out of such criticism and such a situation is not likely to be changed by the proposed reorganizations by legislation are to be proposed—I have not been con-

<p>of them only at second hand—but their proposal came after effective measures of reorganization had been brought forth and maturely perfected, and inasmuch as these measures have</p>	<p>tion. "The people are entitled to be into the committee's confidence the people don't want it, that will all right. It's their war."</p>
<p>CHANGES TO BE MADE IN FACULTY OF YALE</p>	<p>TWO FUEL VIOLATIONS REPORTED AT WALLINGFORD</p>
<p>A Number of the Members Have Been Given Leaves of Absence.</p>	<p>One Dealer in Dry Goods, the Other a Confectioner.</p>

New Haven, Conn., Jan. 21.—At the Yale Corporation meeting held today additional names of absence were granted to faculty members to engage in government work as follows: to Professor John C. Tracy, in finance; to work for the city war bureau; Dr. Percy W. Bidwell to go to Wash-

ington to aid tariff commission: Professor Irving Fisher's leave was extended until April 1, 1914. Announcement was also made of the retirement at the end of this year of Henry W. Farmer, professor of political economy, and Frank A. Gooch, professor of chemistry and director of Kent laboratory. Professor Gooch will be succeeded by Professor Bertram B. Boltwood, Assistant Professor of Mathematics, who was made professor of Latin in the college; Assistant Professor Charles Seymour, professor of history in the college; and Professor George H. Rugg, who will be formally made lecturer in State Administration. Russell Morrison.

That fuel may be conserved, the High School committee decided tonight to have but one session in the schools from now until spring. The schools will open at 8.45 and close at 1.15. The night session will be kept open as usual.

**THOMAS HOLT APPOINTED
AS DAIRY COMMISSIONER**

**TWO ARMED MEXICANS
KILLED BY U. S. PATROLS**

One American Cavalryman's Horse
Was Shot From Under Him.

El Paso, Texas, Jan. 21.—Two armed Mexicans were shot and killed to-day by United States cavalry patrols in Big Bend National Monument, Texas, 32 miles southeast of here, when United States cavalry patrols returned rifle fire from the Mexican side of the line, according to a report received at military headquarters here. One American cavalryman's horse was shot from under him.

Southington Man Succeeded the
Frank H. Stadtmueller.

Hartford, Conn., Jan. 21.—An appointment was made here tonight by Governor Holcomb of Southington as commissioner to succeed the Frank H. Stadtmueller, who resigned his position as deputy commissioner since May, 1, 1917. The president of the Connecticut State Fair, who has been in many other dairy and rural exhibitions. He has been first deputy commissioner of the State in Orange circles. He is now deputy commissioner will be re-